

North Central Neighborhood Association
November 4, 2010

Meeting called to order by Maggie Anderson, President

Welcome and introductions around the table.

In attendance: 14 people

Guest Speakers:

* Dr. Tony Palermini from The Green Ribbon Task Force came to speak about park fundraising. After Dr. Palermini moved to Gresham nearly 10 years ago he began to serve as a volunteer with the finance committee. After expressing concerns over park programs, he was invited to serve on the Green Ribbon Task Force comprised of approximately 35 individuals. His concern had grown after summer recreation programs for 8,000+ children were cut 2 years ago. Currently 5% of the city's annual budget goes to maintaining our current parks, totaling to an amount of approximately 2 ½ million dollars. Different funding options were considered to fulfill the needs not currently being met. These options included: Creating a regional parks district, a utility fee and a bond measure. Of all options, 51% of residents in Gresham responded most positively to creating a parks district. Currently this proposal is in consideration to be placed on the 2012 ballot for vote by Gresham residents. At this time the Green Ribbon Task Force has recommended the City Manager take \$50,000 out of the general budget to put towards a recreation program.

- A concern expressed was the creation of a parks district might create more legislative hurdles for future park developments. Response from Dr. Palermini indicated it was a possibility.
- Suggestions from association member included looking into fundraising ideas from other programs such as the YMCA and Scouts.

* Steven Thom, an independent contractor from Powder River, came to speak on behalf of Clear Wire, an internet service provider. They are currently in the pre-application process for putting in (1) pole in an open field located at 223rd and Stark Street. Verizon rejected a request to share an existing pole and it is possible the application may be rejected due to the City's preference for pole sharing, indicated the speaker. The company would like to replace an existing 40' ½" pole with (1) 65' pole with 10' antenna on top. The pole would include (1) 2'x2' cabinet 17' off the ground. The company will be seeking opinion on having the antenna within an enclosure or not. The pole will go down in the ground 10% the height of the pole, plus an additional 2'.

- A concern was expressed regarding the stability of the pole in wind. Mr. Thom said structural calculations are based on gorge strength winds, plus 50% more.
- A neighbor asked if a beacon would be necessary for low planes. Mr. Thom indicated the pole will not be high enough to require this.
- Another concern was presented pertaining to possible health concerns. Mr. Thom responded there is no proof of adverse effects.

Land Use Business:

* 7 Eleven has been progressing with its development.

* There has been an increase of activity at the old Izzys. All plants, awnings and window treatments have been removed.

Red Sunset Park Clean-up:

The next scheduled park clean-up date has been re-scheduled to November 20th. There will not be clean-ups in December or January. Received a response from the City regarding a request for smoke pipes stating they would create more expense and be a maintenance problem.

Neighborhood Concerns:

- * The decision was made to continue with next month's meeting as scheduled.
- * A request was made for additional Neighborhood Watch captains if interested.
- * Neighborhood graffiti is still a concern. Maggie's home was recently tagged along with GSI and the backside of the property facing Hogan from Hogan Drive. Citizen Corps has recently been helping more with removal.

Secretary Business:

- * Created an "About Us" statement for the city website, read for review and public input from the group. It was approved to be submitted to the City for posting.

Announcement:

- * A member of the association announced joining the Gresham City Involvement Committee which is comprised of 9 people who make recommendations to the City Council.

Correction: In the minutes for the October meeting, it was stated there would be a total of (6) poles going in for Clear Wire. The correct number is (1).

Next meeting: December 2, 2010, 7:00 pm at Gresham City Hall

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Minutes of meeting as reported by:
Tia Hough, Secretary NCNA